

THE **VFVC NEWS ALERT**
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APRIL/MAY 2006

ROTA VIRUS VACCINE

NOW AVAILABLE FROM THE VFVC PROGRAM

VFVC is now offering rotavirus vaccine to VFVC providers. Rotateq, manufactured by Merck, can be administered to VFVC eligible infants aged 6 weeks to 32 weeks. Doses should be administered at 2, 4, and 6 months with 4-10 weeks between doses. The **first dose MUST be administered between 6-12 weeks of age** and should not be administered after 12 weeks of age due to insufficient data on safety of the first dose to older infants. The last (third) dose of rotavirus vaccine should be administered by 32 weeks of age. For more on the administration of rotavirus vaccine and for contraindication and precautions, visit the CDC's web site at http://www.cdc.gov/nip/vfc/acip_vfc_resolutions.htm. *A new order form is enclosed. The VIS statement is enclosed in this mailing.*



HEPATITIS A VACCINE

Hepatitis A vaccine is not just for high risk VFVC eligible patients. All VFVC eligible children should receive hepatitis A vaccine at 1 year of age (i.e. 12-23 months). Vaccination should be completed according to the licensed schedule (2 doses, 6 months apart) and integrated into the routine childhood vaccination schedule. Children who are not vaccinated by 2 years of age can be vaccinated at subsequent visits. For ACIP recommendations as they pertain to VFVC, please visit the CDC's web site at http://www.cdc.gov/nip/vfc/acip_vfc_resolutions.htm.

The new VIS statement is enclosed in this mailing.

TDAP vs. TD VACCINE



Tdap is preferred over Td as adolescents are susceptible to pertussis due to waning immunity. A Tdap or Td booster is recommended at any age from 11-18 years if they have completed the recommended childhood DTP/DTaP vaccination series and have not received a Td dose. In some special situations, Td, rather than Tdap may be indicated (please see ACIP recommendations).

INFLUENZA VACCINE

Influenza orders were due April 14th this year and we are currently working on reviewing these orders. Orders will be limited based on vaccine availability as well as each facility's patient enrollment. Facilities are not guaranteed both TIV and LAIV vaccine. If both TIV and LAIV are requested, the TIV request will be filled first since it serves high risk patients. If the facility is able to receive more vaccine based on their enrollment, then their LAIV order will be filled as well up to their allotment. Shipments will begin once stock is received from the manufacturer, which will be sometime around early October. VIS statements will be mailed with the August/September BackPage.



VFVC AWARDS

Exceptional Immunization Rates



*ABC Children's Health Center, Fishersville
CMG-Pediatric Specialists, Norfolk
Falls Church Medical Center, Falls Church
Front Royal Pediatrics, Front Royal
Keysville Pediatrics, P.C., Keysville
Lewis-Gale Clinic, L.L.C., Salem
Munif Pediatrics, Bluefield
Pediatrics At The Beach, Virginia Beach
Practice of Sameera Nasser Rentia, Falls Church
Preferred Pediatrics At Snowden, Fredericksburg
Practice of Dr. Sapra, Norton
Sterling Pediatrics, P.L.L.C., Potomac Falls
(Immunization rates exceed 90% using CASA software)*

Outstanding VFVC Compliance

*Practice of Dr. Cloud, Newport News
Practice of Kenneth Tilghman, M.D., Richmond
Practice of Dr. Rodriguez, Alexandria*

TIDBITS OF INFO

- We will not ship more than 200 doses of each vaccine in one order. Please contact VFVC if this will not last you 3 months and you are not already authorized to order more frequently.
- Please use up your single antigen vaccine before ordering a new combination vaccine such as MMRV. We are seeing a lot of expiration with the single antigen vaccines.

